

# THE SILENT WORLD.

Vol. III.

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No. 13.

## WHAT OF THAT?

Tired! well, and what of that?  
Didst fancy life was spent on beds of ease,  
Fluttering the rose-leaves scattered by the breeze?  
Come, rouse thee! work while it is called to-day;  
Coward, arise, go forth upon thy way!  
Lonely! and what of that?  
Some *must* be lonely: 'tis not given to all  
To feel a heart responsive rise and fall;  
To blend another life into its own,  
Work may be done in loneliness; work on!  
Dark! well, what of that?  
Didst fondly dream the sun would never set?  
Dost fear to lose thy way? Take courage yet,  
Learn thou to walk by faith and not by sight,  
Thy steps will guided be, and guided right.  
Hard! well, what of that?  
Didst fancy life one summer holiday,  
With lessons none to learn, and naught but play?  
Go, get thee to thy task. Conquer or die!  
It must be learned, learn it, then, patiently.  
No help! nay, 'tis not so;  
Though human help be far, thy God is nigh,  
Who feeds the ravens, hears His children's cry;  
He's near thee wheresoe'er thy footsteps roam,  
And He will guide thee, light thee, help thee home.

AMOS KENDALL.

V.

## TEACHING SCHOOL.

THE want of funds to pay his expenses at college again compelled him to remain at home until he could replenish his exchequer by keeping school. After a few days spent in visiting relations and friends, he resumed his studies in order to qualify himself to re-enter his class the next spring.

In October he agreed to teach a school in New Ipswich three months, at \$14.50 per month, beginning on the 21st of November. On going there he was informed by his uncle, with whom he was to board, that the school had heretofore been very disorderly, and that as a prejudice had arisen against him from causes over which he had no control, it was feared that he would have trouble. Being thus forewarned, he began the school by imitating King Log. He announced no rules of order, took no notice of whispering, laughing, or leaving seats, and went through with all the duties of the day as listlessly as possible. The second day was passed like the first until near its close, and the children became so outrageous that he could stand it no longer. Suddenly he cried "Silence!" in a loud voice. Every eye was turned upon him, and there was silence profound.

He then stated that he had been informed there were disorderly persons in that school, and he had left them thus far to act out their natural dispositions without restraint, in order that he might find out who they were; that he now had his eyes upon them, and knew how to meet their disorder. He then proceeded to announce his rules and dismissed school. The next morning his whole manner was changed. In everything he was prompt and decided, though kind and obliging, and the result was that this school was more orderly than any other he ever taught. The parents of the children were, generally, intelligent and kind, apparently exerting themselves to make his residence among them agreeable, and he was cordially invited to take charge of the school the next winter.

Having by request continued the school a week beyond his original agreement, he finally dismissed it on the 18th of February, 1869. The amount received for this winter's labor was \$47.12½.

## A TEMPERANCE STRUGGLE.

Nothing out of the ordinary routine of college-life occurred until the 19th of April, when a series of transactions was inaugurated which afforded him a practical lesson, not without its use in after life.

Each class except the Freshman had what was called its quarter-day. It was distinguished by a public exhibition, which included the performance of certain orations and forensic discussions given out by the faculty, and called Appointments. By the order in which they were given out they indicated the relative estimation in which the recipients were held by the faculty for scholarship and general merit.

It had been a practice from time immemorial for those who received the higher appointments to "treat" the rest of the class on the evening of the day of announcement, and for the class to "treat" all the other classes on the day of performance. This custom was productive of intemperance and rowdiness disgraceful to the college, and a few members of Kendall's class determined to make an effort to break it up. They believed a majority of the class would sustain the movement, and one morning after recitation requested their classmates to stop for the purpose of ascertaining their views. Resolutions were presented denouncing the custom, and declaring that the class would neither encourage nor participate in it. They were opposed by those who preferred a frolic to the reputation of the college; but after discussion they were adopted by a clear majority. Those who took an interest in the movement determined to meet at two o'clock the same day for the purpose of concerting further measures. The other party occupied the intermediate time in electioneering against the movement, and met the reformers at two o'clock with new recruits and in a most determined spirit. A resolution was offered rescinding the resolution of the morning and ratifying the time-disgraced custom. A violent discussion ensued, and the success of the rescinding motion became probable, when a few of the temperance party determined to change their tactics and make it an individual instead of a class affair. They retired and drew up a brief pledge to the effect that they would neither "treat" nor participate in "treating" on the day when the appointments should be given out or on Sophomore quarter-day. Mr. Kendall returned into the meeting with this paper, signed by himself and five others, and calling the attention of his classmates, read it, and invited all those who were opposed to the custom of "treating" to sign it. This raised at once a storm of excitement. James Bradford, the son of a clergyman, and himself avowedly preparing for the pulpit, requested to see the paper. It was put into his hands, when he spit upon it, tore it in pieces, and stamped upon it. Kendall looked him in the face a moment, and then said, "I can write another." Accordingly he retired, wrote another and signed it; but such a storm had been raised that a large portion of those who were disposed to act with the temperance party shrank from the responsibility, and only thirteen signatures could be procured to the pledge in the class of sixty members.

The next day the Sophomore appointments were given out. The first was assigned to Nathaniel H. Carter, the second to Joseph Perry, the third to Nathaniel Wright, the fourth to Daniel Poor,

the fifth to Robert Crowell, the sixth to Amos Kendall, the seventh to Samuel Woodbury, the eighth to ——— Fairfield, and then followed several to whom were assigned dialogues and forensic discussions. Of the eight who received the principal appointments, six had signed the pledge against "treating." A tutor who had previously expressed his opinion against the practice, after reading off the appointments, in the name of the faculty prohibited it, and announced that any one who "treated," or allowed "treating" in his room, would be expelled.

Several of the students went from the recitation-room to Mr. Perry's room, which was on the lower floor of the main college building, for the purpose of congratulating him and talking over the incidents of the day. In the midst of their conversation the door was opened, and in came half a dozen classmates with a decanter of rum, which they set on the table of a study-chair; they invited all present to drink, and set the example themselves. Kendall, who was present, immediately left for his own room, not knowing what might be going on there, and at the outer door met two of the "treating" party, whose faces confessed their guilt. He simply said "I see you," and passed on into his room, where he found the table standing in the middle of the floor, with every empty bottle and vessel in the room placed upon it in derision.

The next night several guns were fired into the windows of Mr. Perry's room, shattering them into a thousand pieces. The same night the windows of a room occupied by one of the tutors named Ayres were broken, and a large quantity of filth laid at his door.

On the 25th Mr. Perry was called before the faculty, on the charge of allowing "treating" in his room, and Kendall and Fowle were called upon as witnesses. They stated what they saw, and, among other things, that it was their classmate Folsome who brought the liquor into Perry's room. Folsome, when called up, denied it, when he was confronted with Fowle, Poor, and Kendall, who all confirmed their original statement to his face, and it was proved by Carter that the same party had thrust themselves with their liquor into his room.

On the 27th Bradford and several others were called to account for their conduct in this affair and various other misdemeanors. The next morning the "Temple of Cloacina," or the "Little College," so called by the students, was in ashes, the cushion of the chapel desk torn into shreds and scattered through the building and around the colleges, and the front and floor of the desk, together with the seats of the professors and tutors, were defiled with filth.

The President, however, though greatly agitated, made a feeling and excellent prayer, and then called on Tutor Ayres, who read the sentence of the faculty expelling Folsome, and also that depriving Bradford of all the privileges of the institution, and directing him to leave it without delay. The form of Bradford's sentence was occasioned by the fact that, in consequence of long absence, he was not at that time a member of the class. Folsome and Bradford immediately left the chapel, and as the faculty came out, the former accosted Tutor Brown, cursed him, and charged him with being the author of his disgrace. The Tutor, who was a most amiable man, though endowed with remarkable firmness and self-possession, took no notice of Folsome, but was seen to speak to Professor Hubbard, and laugh. Not content with this exploit, Folsome, the same day, threw a brickbat at Perry, insulted Fowle, hallooed at Kendall when passing at a distance, and said he had told a d—d lie, then his companions commenced singing a doggered song about him which some of them had composed. Of all this none of the temperance party took any notice.

Mr. Perry was the only one of the obnoxious individuals whose room was easily accessible to the malcontents, and so strong were their apprehensions for his personal safety, that a few of his friends

for several nights kept watch in his room. As long as the watch was continued, he was not molested; but twice, when it was suspended, his windows were dashed in, and once his door was battered open with a log of wood.

Twice, as Kendall passed out of the main college building, a stick of wood was thrown at him from a passage window in the third story, to the manifest danger of his life. Sitting near his classmate, Pillsbury,—who occupied one of the adjacent rooms,—at supper the evening after the second assault, Kendall asked in a good-humored tone, "Who keeps garrison in the passage between your room and Goodwin's?" (The passage from which the missiles came.) Pillsbury replied, "That is our mode of salutation." Kendall rejoined, "I should like to be saluted in a situation where I could return the compliment." Pillsbury blushed, and was silent.

As quarter-day approached, all sorts of rumors were circulated, such as that the temperance party, and Kendall in particular, were to be hissed and driven from the stage: that the students in general would not attend in the chapel; that there would be disturbances, etc., etc. The evident object was to deter the public from attending; and such was the effect that the resident band of music declined to play. Upon the suggestion of one of the tutors and Professor Hubbard, application was made to the Handel Society to perform some pieces of sacred music. The panic had reached the society, and there was opposition, on the ground that the application was not made by the class. Being himself a member of the society, and also the committee to provide music, Mr. Kendall was called on for an explanation. Somewhat provoked at the hesitation of the society to aid the cause of right and virtue in such an emergency, he related all the circumstances, under some excitement, and concluded by telling them, "If you see fit to help us, well; if not, we will help ourselves." As there was still an evident reluctance on the part of a large portion of the society, the application was pressed no further.

Being determined to have music, the temperance party sent a messenger to a neighboring town, where he engaged four performers. At their request the faculty had postponed the exhibition for one week, for the purpose of enabling them to complete their arrangements, and in the hope that the excitement would subside.

On the morning of the 24th of May, the day to which the performances had been adjourned, it was evident that active measures were on foot to prevent the attendance of an audience. About noon a party of negroes appeared and built a booth not twenty rods from the chapel, which was soon furnished with seats, tables, liquors, and eatables. Near by was mounted on a log an old iron cannon, which from time immemorial had been without an owner, and used by the students as a sort of plaything.

At 2 p. m. the faculty and performers entered the chapel. Not thirty students other than the performers came in, and the entire audience did not exceed eighty. A large portion of the other students, with a promiscuous crowd of people, surrounded the booth and the cannon. Simultaneously with those in the chapel began the exercises at the booth. They consisted of drinking, shouting, yelling, singing doggerel songs, and firing the old cannon.

Undismayed, however, the performers in the chapel went through with their exercises, removed their staging, retired to their rooms, and spent a pleasant evening in social intercourse. The party on the plain also dispersed, and all was quiet. Which party slept that night with the most easy consciences and with the best hopes for the future, it would not be difficult to determine. The performances were highly commended, and the little temperance party felt that they had achieved a great victory.

For several days all remained quiet, and the rioters, when questioned as to their reasons for absenting themselves from the chapel,



generally gave some frivolous excuse. The faculty seemed undecided as to the course they should pursue. At length they determined to call up those who had absented themselves from the chapel, and treat each according to the spirit he might evince on examination. The mildest punishment contemplated for those who had wilfully taken part in the disturbances, was a written acknowledgment of error and regret, in a form which the faculty had themselves prepared. They began with calling up the members of the Senior class, who generally signed the acknowledgment. Mr. Kendall's journal says, "Woodbury, however, who was deeply implicated in the affair, was excused, affirming that he was forced into the scrape." This was Levi Woodbury, afterwards distinguished in public life.

The Juniors engaged in the riot were next called up, only one of whom signed the acknowledgment. Several were excused and eight dismissed. All of those in the Sophomore and Freshman classes who were engaged signed the acknowledgment, when the refractory Juniors, finding themselves without support in the other classes, came forward and offered to sign. Their offer was accepted and they were restored.

Darling, of the Sophomore class, was dismissed, for the additional offence of singing a doggerel song, written to ridicule the attempt to put down "treating," in which several names, including Kendall's, were freely used. Having much sympathy for him, in the belief that he had acted under the influence of worse young men, Kendall had a free conversation with him, during which Darling confessed his error and folly, exhibited the song, but disavowed all knowledge of the author, and said the disturbance did not originate in the Sophomore class, and tendered all the reparation in his power.

On account of the steady determination with which Kendall had acted in this affair he had become very odious to the "treating" party, some of whom vented their spite by writing his name on the college walls, in the chapel, and in the recitation-room, connected with curses, denunciations, and nicknames. Of this he made no complaint and no notice.

Some time after Bradford left, Kendall received an anonymous letter postmarked at Bradford's place of residence, containing nothing but a repetition of such vulgar insults as had been inscribed upon the college walls. Not doubting that Bradford was the author, Kendall concluded to lay it aside until Bradford became a preacher of the gospel,—that being the profession which it was known he intended to adopt. Hearing in 1818 that he had become a settled minister in an interior town in Massachusetts, Mr. Kendall wrote in Bradford's letter the following words, addressed it to him, paid the postage, and sent it by mail:—

"REV. SIR,—I return to you the only memorial of your former folly and meanness in my possession. That I never injured you is known to my God, your God, and my own conscience. I am sufficiently revenged. That you are reformed, and that you may be useful and finally happy, is the sincere hope of

AMOS KENDALL."

It was believed that if Mr. Bradford had become a better man this note would elicit an apology from him; but no reply was ever received; nor did Bradford ever attend a class-meeting, though several were held while he was yet living.

A DEAF man lived between my house and place of business. In passing by I often gave him miscellaneous reading, of which he was quite fond. In the packages of secular newspapers, etc., I would place religious tracts and papers.

In the deaf man's house lived a black woman. The reading reached her, and by the influence of the Holy Spirit, resulted in her conversion. A short time before she died she sent for me to tell me what God had done for her soul.—*American Messenger*.

[From the Annals.]

### THE PERVERSITY OF DEAF-MUTISM.

BY A DISGUSTED PEDAGOGUE.

THE American system of deaf-mute education is a failure. Tried by its own standards, it is condemned. Its object is "to restore the deaf-mute to society"—that is, to enable and encourage him to take an equal place in the society of hearing and speaking people. But in fact it only inspires him with a stronger and more exclusive affinity for other deaf-mutes. It strengthens the spirit of clannishness which leads him to seek their companionship, not for the passing moment merely, but for life, and to be interested in tidings of them and of what concerns them, not in occasional correspondence merely, but in broad sheets of small type devoted to such intelligence.

Such being the case, let us preserve our system, and reprobate the deaf-mute for exhibiting such tendencies as its consequences.

For is not our system perfect?

We bring deaf-mutes together from every part of a wide territory by the score and the hundred. Infants of six, young men and maidens of six-and-twenty, we herd them all in one building; we preach to them and pray at them all in one chapel; we feed them all in one dining-hall; we provide each sex with its own study-room, but only one for each; we send them to sleep forty, eighty, an hundred and twenty in one dormitory; we subject all, young and old, to the same discipline, exemplifying the tender care of the elder brother and the elder sister in monitors armed with mark-books and arming themselves with broom-sticks; we keep them under the same influences—only shifting them from class-room to class-room, it may be twenty times and it may be never—for ten months in the year and for from five to seventeen years at a stretch: we shield them from the contamination of other youths in a college of their own; and if they do well—we make them teachers and keep them in the same society till the end of their days.

We give them books carefully prepared so as to display in all their hideousness the dry bones of the English language. Solid page on solid page of sentences all in one tense; phrases so highly idiomatic one meets with them twice in a lifetime; lists of all the diseases flesh is heir to, from dandruff to a stubbed toe—these form their idea of English. But English is sacredly confined to the class-room and the text-books. When we wish to amuse, to instruct, to improve; when we talk to each other, we grimace and gesticulate and jump.

And yet after all our sedulous care, they obstinately persist in not understanding and not writing English, and shunning those who do; in talking in sigas; in attending deaf-mute conventions reading deaf-mute papers, and marrying deaf-mutes.

Surely this can only be utter perversity or original sin.

But if gregariousness be the result of aggregation, let us first pull the beam out of our own eyes, and then out of theirs the mote which is its splinter.

THE *Paris Univers* says the extraordinary favor accorded to a young girl at Blois, who was a deaf-mute from her birth, but who was made whole at Lourdes, has been the subject of an episcopal inquiry. A commission was appointed to investigate the miracle of the child, and the course of cure; whether means or circumstances purely natural might have brought about the result; the conditions necessary to make the cure a present; whether, in the present case, the result shown should be considered as a miracle proper, or as one of those surprising favors which the church is not accustomed to regard as miracles, and which it ranges among the extraordinary blessings of Heaven. After long and minute investigation on oath, the commission has given in its opinion that the cure is really a miracle. The Bishop, considering all the facts, has declared that it must be so regarded.

# THE SILENT WORLD.

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WASHINGTON, NOVEMBER 1, 1873.

THE Executive Committee of the American Instructors of the Deaf and Dumb met at Belleville, Ontario, on the 17th ult. and decided to hold the next convention of teachers at Belleville on the 15th of July 1874.

THE *Advance* says that it is not against the College for Deaf-Mutes in Washington, and never has been, and that no other paper "of its kind" is a more staunch advocate of the College than *The Advance*. Its "whole soul is in the success of the College boys." Its friends ought not to laugh, for, without doubt, it is trying to be "terribly in earnest."

WE are glad to see that *The Journal* urges that the memorial to Laurent Clerc be made to take the form of a home for aged and infirm deaf-mutes, to be called the "Clerc Home." Our readers will remember that, as early as August, 1871, THE SILENT WORLD made the same recommendation, and we yet stand by it, for we believe that this way of honoring Clerc is incomparably the best.

OUR Michigan correspondent puts this conundrum: "Why does not *The Annals* try to point out the merits of our American method of deaf-mute instruction instead of its defects?" and remarks that "it is our place to look at the bright side of the thing, and not get discontented and discouraged at the exposure and exaggeration of such defects as are unavoidable, and such ones as would, if let alone, be but trifles."

SEVERAL of our subscribers have written to us, and, without renewing their subscription, requested us to send them the chromo "Returning Home." We give it free *only* to those who send \$1.50 for another year's subscription. Many, who are entitled to the picture, have been compelled to wait for it, owing to the inability of the publishers to furnish the picture as they promised to do. We are making arrangements with another firm and hope to have the picture ready to send off in a week or two.

ELSEWHERE, with fear and trembling, we hazard a few remarks on the instruction of deaf-mutes in trades. We do it with a lively sense of the danger we incur, of having some one hurl a ponderous volume of *The Annals* at our head and accuse us of plagiarism. So great is our sense of guilt, that we can not resist the inclination to dodge behind the nearest excuse, even before we see the arm raised to cast the avenging tome. We mean no harm. We know *The Annals* has exhausted every conceivable subject under the sun, that has any relation to the deaf and dumb; and doubtless those, who depend upon that periodical for their mental aliment, will smile a sickly smile at our puny attempt to be wise over a subject that has been ably and exhaustively discussed a century back by the lights of the profession, and by them judged and laid upon the shelf without hope of recall. But if such is the case, we throw ourselves upon the lesser horn of our dilemma and plead ignorance.

## INSTRUCTION IN TRADES.

ATTENTION is called to the statement of our New York City correspondent that deaf-mutes who have learned trades while at school cannot compete in skill with ordinary workmen. We can affirm from our own knowledge that this is a lamentable fact. We have long thought it a matter that deserved attention from those who have our institutions in charge. As trades are now taught, the pupil is placed in the work-shop at an age when he is incapable of understanding the value of the instruction there given and the use of the tools. The duties are irksome and become a drudgery, for, wearied with the confinement of the school-room, the heart of the boy is out in the play-ground that looks so inviting through the dingy window of the shop, and he has no love for the labor which his hands perform. As a consequence, he learns the trade in a slipshod manner, and much time, material, labor and patience is wasted upon him to little purpose. Then too, the almost constant confinement of growing boys within the school-room and the often unwholesome air of the shop must have an injurious effect on their physical and intellectual development.

Is there not a remedy for all this in the arrangement which we propose. Let the pupils be kept out of the shop, until they have finished their course of study in school, and, then, let them be bound as apprentices to the shops for three years or more. By this system the children would secure more out-door life than they can now obtain, and would, in their sports, build up that foundation of physical health on which so much of their happiness and success in after life depends. They would have more time and opportunity to devote to their studies, and would undoubtedly make greater progress in them than they now do. Unwearied by the drudgery of the shop, and freshened by hearty sports in the open air, they would be better qualified to give to the teacher that undivided attention, which is so essential in the study-room. The boys, being of an age, and of attainments, which will enable them to choose rationally the trade which is most to their taste, and give to it that application and enthusiasm, by which alone they can become skillful workmen, will, at the end of their apprenticeship, find themselves able to compete with expert hands among the hearing and speaking.

Under this system, shops, which are now run at a loss to the institution, it is probable, would, from the labor of apprentices in love with their work, become the source of a snug income.

Some may object that such an arrangement is not practicable, and we confess it is to us nothing but an untried theory; but it is a theory born of experience in the old system, and we, at least, think it worthy of a trial.

## OBITUARY.

MRS. HARRIET STONER, for many years, matron of the New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, died on the 13th of last month, aged over seventy.

Very few, if any of her sex, have been as widely known or as generally esteemed and loved among the deaf and dumb, and their teachers as this lady. She first became connected with the Institution in 1833, and after being eight years an assistant to Miss Martha Dudley, in 1841 succeeded her in the office of matron-in-chief, the duties of which she discharged with remarkable energy and capacity for twenty-four years. Retiring in 1865, on account of failing health and strength, she did not lose her interest in the affairs of the institution or her love for the deaf and dumb. To be near her old friends of the Institution, she lived in 152d street, about half a mile from the Institution till June last, when she went to spend the summer with her kindred in Harrisburgh, Pa., and died there of a long lingering disease, wasting away till her features were hardly recognizable.



In her will she desired to be buried in the lot set apart for the deaf and dumb in Trinity Cemetery, near the Institution. Her remains were accordingly brought from Harrisburgh, and the funeral services were held in the chapel of the N. Y. Institution. Appropriate tributes to the memory of the deceased were spoken by her pastor, Rev. Dr. Stoddard, by Rev. Dr. Gallaudet, and by Rev. Mr. Pettengill, who had known her as the matron when they were teachers, Dr. Peet, the principal, interpreting by signs for the benefit of the pupils. Many of the teachers and pupils followed her remains to the humble grave she had chosen, where she sleeps till the resurrection near some of those who felt her kind care in life.

Mrs. Stoner had a husband from whom she parted before she came to the Institution, she never had any children of her own, but was always kind to children.

J. R. B.

[CORRESPONDENCE.]

## EPSILON SIGMA SOCIETY.

New York, October 20, 1873.

To the Editors of the Silent World:

In your remarks upon *The Annals* for October, in your issue of October 15th, you make mention of this society as "The Epsilon Sigma Society of the New York Institution." This would convey the idea that it is a local affair. It is not so. The organization is national.

Ever Truly Yours,

FORT LEWIS SELINEY, *Grand Sec'y.*

## FROM NEW YORK.

THE MANHATTAN LITERARY ASSOCIATION—PAPER OR POWDER—  
TRADES POORLY LEARNED AT SCHOOL.

To the Editors of The Silent World:

Of the cities of the United States, New York ranks first in magnitude and population, and I doubt not, the number of deaf-mutes here is larger than in any other city of the Union. It would be a pity then, if your readers were not informed occasionally of what is going on among its deaf and dumb residents.

On Thursday, October 2d, there was a debate among the deaf-mutes in the Lecture-room of St. Ann's Church. The question was: "Which is the most useful to mankind, Paper or Powder?" It was finally decided by a majority of one that powder was the most useful.

To a close observe of the debate, it soon became apparent that the question had not been very carefully studied. The arguments on both sides were weak, and the debaters seemed to think that it was best to avoid the direct point, at least, that is what they did. Judging from the evidence disclosed by the contestants, the vote arrived at was a *just* one; but, considering the uses to which paper is put, I am not prepared to say that I fully endorse the verdict.

Last evening a number of mutes met at the same place. No question had been given out and no arrangements made for a lecture, so the time was passed in story-telling. Dr. Gallaudet had his say and it was the best of all.

One thing, especially worthy of note, is that the deaf-mutes, after leaving school, rarely follow the trades which they learn at the Institution.

Here in New York, there are over a hundred deaf-mutes, at the lowest estimate, and to say that not more than a dozen follow the trades they learned at school, would not be far from the truth.

Those who are following the trades, they were taught at school, had become skilled in them before graduating, and had acquired a liking for them. Not so with the majority, however, it seems that they learned the trades at school, merely because they *had to*, and, as soon as they left school, and became their own masters, they turned to something more to their taste.

It is generally the case that deaf-mutes severing their connection with an institution, after having spent several years at a trade cannot compete with speaking and hearing men at the same business. One young man who left the New York Institution a few years ago, and was considered the *best* in the shop at his trade, found on leaving school that he had much to learn before he could compete with speaking and hearing men at the same trade.

This can only be accounted for by attributing it to the fact that the trades as taught at the institutions are not as thoroughly mastered as they are in the work-rooms of those who hear and speak.

New York, Oct. 10, 1873.

EUREKA.

## A SUGGESTION FOR SELF-DEPENDENCE.

To the Editors of The Silent World:

I wish to add a word to what I said in *THE SILENT WORLD* of Sept. 15th.

It is admitted that copies of a country newspaper have been distributed *free* to the deaf-mutes, living within the limits of New York, for about forty years. Being accustomed to take papers free for so long time makes it difficult for a radical reform. This is worse than borrowing newspapers. Here I would offer a suggestion to those young graduates, just leaving their "Alma Mater" that they get up a petition to their legislature, protesting their self-dependence and their ability to subscribe for any newspaper, they may prefer, and to pay its regular subscription like independent citizens.

Should the sympathetic legislature insist upon granting the usual appropriation, it ought to be turned over to the "Home for Aged and Infirm Deaf-Mutes." Such a liberal course would command the praise and respect of every independent deaf-mute.

Yours, Respectfully,

C. AUG. BROWN.

Belfast, Maine, October 23, 1873.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF A MUTE ARTIST.

IN fulfillment of my promise of sending occasional contributions to *THE SILENT WORLD*, I shall begin with some reminiscences of my professional sojourns at Washington City.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

In speaking of this remarkable man, I shall attempt to be neither his opponent like Hon. Henry A. Foote of Mississippi, nor his apologist and lauder like General Jubal A. Early, but one who once enjoyed his acquaintance, and who still deploras his acts of indiscretion.

During my stay at Baltimore in the pursuit of my profession, I was requested by Mrs. Jefferson Davis, through a lady residing there, to go to Washington City and paint her little child. At the appointed time I went there and had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Mrs. Davis and her husband, the Secretary of War under President Franklin Pierce. I found the lady a large woman, of complexion and features semblant to those of a handsome squaw; her manners were easy and devoid of affectation; and the gentleman was slim and of medium stature, exceedingly courteous and dignified in his manners, though ever gentle his expression appeared, there was the stern ruler in his light blue or gray eyes and thin, compressed lips.

Availing myself one morning of my acquaintance with the Secretary, I submitted to his inspection my design for Floating Batteries. He laid the drawings on the floor round his feet; and, his elbows resting upon his knees and his cheeks upon his hands, he studied them while he listened to his wife reading the description.

The Floating Battery was to be a raft of logs, with a front elevation of thick oak planks, the top of which had to project considerably forward, and a roof and loping from the top of the elevation to the rear edge of the raft. They both were to be overlaid with iron plates of requisite thickness, and these to be smeared with tallow.

When his inspection was done, he said in writing that he thought it was a very good idea, but he suggested that he should show my papers to the chief engineer (Gen. Totten,) he himself being no engineer. I felt highly flattered by the request, and dreamed of bags of golden eagles. In a few days Mr. Davis handed me Gen. Totten's letter to him, in which he gave an unfavorable opinion of the plan. He said that, though it might have answered well fifty years back, when all the guns were smaller, the enemy could now make his balls and shells ricochet the water so as to penetrate the tallow, armour and plank of the front wall from below. My good friend sympathized with me in my disappointment.

APPROPOS of iron-clads, in whose efficiency I had unlimited faith, even long before the great fight between the rebel Merrimac and the Union Monitor, a few months after the first battle of Bull-Run, the Confederates raised small earthen batteries along the western shore of the Potomac River, in order to harass the transports plying between the Washington Navy-yard and Fortress Monroe. So great was the annoyance that every remedy was sought to stop it. Just at that juncture an idea, coming into my head, was immediately transferred to paper, and I forwarded it in drawings with a description to Hon. Mr. Seward. They related to a new remedy for that evil, as follows:—Ordinary canal-propellers, which could be had at a small expense, were to be lined laterally with strong beams, under which air-tight kegs were to be fastened near the keels, purposely to render the hulls buoyant and unsinkable. The gabled roofs, resting on the beams, and constructed of oak planks and thick iron plates, were to cover wholly the vessels and to have one or two port-holes on each side. The purchase of one or more ready-made propellers and their alterations as suggested above could be completed in about a week.

I received an answer from Mr. Seward, stating that he had handed my papers to the Secretary of War, Hon. Mr. Cameron. And I have since never heard from him (Mr. C.) or learned anything about my suggestion. Doubtless the papers were silently pigeon-holed, and still lie dormant in the archives of the War Department.

JOHN CARLIN.

### PERSONAL.

MR. JOHN D. PICKENS, of Barbour Co., West Va., has fine Yellow Sulphur and Iron Springs on his farm.

MR. ZADOC ELLIOT and Miss Lydia A. Garrett, both of Huron County, Ohio, were married near their home on Tuesday, Oct. 14.

MR. ALDEN F. OSGOOD, of Natick, Mass., we regret to learn, has been prostrated by sickness, which interfered with his projected visit to Washington.

MR. STANFORD L. NICHOLS, brother of the principal of the North Carolina Institution, and a graduate of that school, is in Washington. He is a skillful printer, and has the promise of a position in the Government Printing Office as soon as Congress meets.

MR. SAMUEL ADAMS, of Baltimore, Md., has, we regret to learn, been troubled with sickness that has interfered with the performance of his duties as religious instructor of the deaf-mutes of that city. The Sunday services have, as a consequence, been omitted several times of late.

WM. K. CHASE, of Mandarin, Fla., writes that he has encountered a travelling deaf-mute beggar, who pretends that he is a preacher to deaf-mutes. He said his name was Reynolds, and that he came from Ohio, and boasted that it cost him but a very few dollars to travel and board for many months.

"HOWARD GLYNDON'S" poems have been collected and published in a volume, entitled "Sounds from Secret Sources." It is criticised

favorably in a two-column notice by *The N. Y. Tribune*, and *The N. Y. Evening Post* says: They evince sensibility and the feeling of beauty. Miss Redden's gayer vein is a charming one, and it seems a pity, artistically, of course, that the burden of so much of her volume should be sad. She often exaggerates grief without quite expressing it.

MR. W. S. SMITH, not the principal of the Oregon Institution, but a graduate of Hartford, has been in Washington lately. He is a sort of Baron Munchausen among deaf-mutes and we recall one of his stories to this effect. He was travelling in Cuba late one night when he was brought up by a highwayman and requested to stand and deliver: the request being emphasized by the touch of the cold barrel of a pistol to his forehead. The Baron emphasized his delivery also, by bending down and pulling out his bag of gold and suddenly hurling it with all his might full in the face of the pad, who was knocked senseless by the jingling coins. The Baron thereupon picked up his Spanish dollars, took the robber's pistol and went on his way rejoicing.

BOSTON DEAF-MUTE MISSION.—A new religious society, has recently been organized in this city, all of whose members are deaf-mutes. It bears the above name, has been duly incorporated, and will meet for the present at the Library Hall, No. 289 Washington street. Its purpose is to provide a religious home for this class of our citizens, with regular preaching on the Sabbath and prayer-meeting on Friday evening, and is to be a true mission enterprise. The charter provides that the control of the mission shall be held by officers who are in full membership in Evangelical churches. The officers are Jonathan P. Marsh, leader, who was one of the earliest religious instructors of deaf-mutes, having formed a Bible class some twenty years ago. Wm. Bailey is clerk. The standing committee are Wm. B. Swett, H. A. Osgood and Alonzo Allard, and Thomas Shackford is treasurer. As the deaf-mutes are by no means wealthy, much of the expense of this very desirable organization must be met by gifts from the charitable, and William B. Swett, the president of the New England Gallaudet Association, has been appointed general agent to solicit funds to sustain the enterprise.—*Boston Herald*.

### COLLEGE RECORD.

#### THE LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE meeting of the Literary Society on Friday evening, Oct 17, was well attended and the performances interesting. Mr. E. L. Chapin, of '74, delivered an oration on "Rome and the Character of the Romans" which was good, but showed unmistakable traces of having been very hastily prepared. And here we may remark that this has always been the one great fault which has tended to make tame and listless meetings which would otherwise have been attractive.

The debate on the question: "Should deaf-mute newspapers, associations and conventions be discouraged?" was spiritedly contested, but finally carried by the negative party, as was to be expected. With here and there an exception, nothing new was brought out, the speakers restricting themselves for the most part to those arguments which have already been put forth in *The Annals* and *THE SILENT WORLD*. Mr. Park, who opened in favor of the affirmative, cited as an illustration of the evil results of a class holding aloof from civilized mankind, the North American Indians. He was, however, reminded by Mr. Simpson that the comparison was not a fair one—that deaf-mutes were both educated and civilized, while the Indians were neither. The latter gentleman also pointed



out the fact that while those opposed to conventions, etc., had succeeded very well in enumerating the evils of deaf-mute society, they had failed to present any evidence that we would be better off were all our newspapers and societies done away with, and neglected, or were unable to point out the ways and means by which deaf-mutes were to be made to mingle with the hearing and speaking so that such intercourse should be pleasant and profitable to both. Besides, conventions and reunions exert a very decided moral influence over those who attend them. The deaf-mute who is now and then, brought into contact with teachers and schoolmates whose good opinion he has been wont to value, will be very careful in life to do nothing which would lower himself in their estimation, to say nothing of the good advice and encouragement to well-doing which he may there receive.

The declamation of Mr. Jones brought down the house. When, long years ago, we spoke "Casabianca" for our "piece" at the district school, we little dreamed that we should ever see the burning lines transformed by matchless pantomime as was done two weeks ago. Old Nelson's rousing broadsides, the smoke and din of battle, the upward-leaping flames of the doomed ship, and the brave boy calling his dead father—all stood out before us in a living picture which we will not soon forget.

We came away from that meeting feeling that the students need not be ashamed of their literary endeavors. The College, though small, contains material for a society which can and is destined to exert a healthy influence among its members—an influence which will be felt throughout the whole Institution. All that the students need is a little encouragement in their efforts, a little interest manifested in the welfare of the organization by those whose opinions they value.

The next meeting is to be held on Friday evening, Oct. 31, when the debate is to be on the question: "Should Government control the railways of the country?"

#### IN THE FOCUS.

Our photographer has begun operations. Saturday morning, Oct. 18, he took a stereoscopic view of the College building, with the students grouped in highly original attitudes on the steps and in the windows, and with that useful functionary, the "senator of dust and ashes," brandishing mop and scrub-brush in a prominent position. Before many copies had been printed, however, the negative was heedless enough to tumble out of the window and smash into a thousand fragments on the coal heap below.

The same day we all assembled on the steps leading to the chapel and dining-room to be taken with that hungry aspect we always present when waiting for the dinner-bell. Owing, however, to certain light-hearted Preps being thoughtless enough to scratch their heads or tickle their neighbors during the operation, it was not a success, and had to be repeated on the following Wednesday. Nothing was therefore accomplished in the forenoon, but the result of the afternoon's work was a very neat and pretty view of the Institution, Chapel, and College buildings from near the gate, showing the grounds and plank-walk.

AUCTION sales are on the decrease.

THE READING ROOM needs new chairs badly.

THE CROQUET Club has gone into winter quarters.

ANOTHER Preparatory has been poisoned with ivy.

PROF. SPENCER goes to Europe to study Chemistry.

THE Sophomore lectures on Chemistry occur on Tuesdays and Fridays.

DR. CHARLES DENISON, a brother of Mrs. Gallaudet, has been visiting the President for several days.

SEVENTH STREET—Our Seventh—is to be paved, possibly with wood. The Board of Public Works says so.

WHY don't some enterprising Sophomore again invest in a barrel of apples for the public good? We promise to patronize him.

THE Kendalls are getting discouraged. They have challenged five of the city clubs, all of which, either from lofty scorn or fear of getting soundly thrashed, have declined to play.

A MEMBER of '73 amuses himself on Saturday afternoons by paddling over the Potomac in one of those famous canoes which made such a sensation towards the end of last term.

PRESIDENT GALLAUDET returned, from Canada, October 22, bringing with him his two daughters, who since their return from Europe have been staying with their grandfather in Hartford.

A "SELECT," whose experience with restaurants has been limited, was recently detected giving the following remarkable order: Mr. Waiter, I want to buy three fried oysters.

MR. W. S. SMITH, favored the College with a visit October 24, and told some of his characteristic tough stories. He has been to California and the way he flourishes his bag of double eagles is very consoling.

OUR friend, Dr. Thos. Gallaudet, were he now on a visit to the College would no doubt feel highly honored. A photograph of him has been adorning the bulletin board for some days, labelled, "Specimen.---Single copies ten cents."

WHEN President Gallaudet arrived at Hamilton, a town some forty miles this side of Toronto, Canada, on his recent trip, he found there was no train to the latter city for some hours, and unless he could arrive there in time to take the morning express to Belleville, he would be a day late at the meeting of the Committee. The case admitted of no delay, so obtaining an engine from the Superintendent of the road, he rolled out of the village in the gray mists of the morning and was soon flying over the track, sweeping around curves and leaping bridges, and arrived in Toronto in ample time, having made the forty miles in less than three quarters of an hour. It was a very exciting ride.

#### INSTITUTION NEWS.

##### SOUTH CAROLINA.

THE following is the substance of the letter addressed by Superintendent of Education Jillison to Superintendent N. F. Walker of the Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institution at Cedar Springs. We understand that in consequence of the instructions of Superintendent Jillison, all the officials of the Institution have resigned and the school has been closed. It will, however, be opened as soon as a new Superintendent and a corps of instructors can be obtained:

"The following points, relative to the admission of colored pupils into the institution, will be strictly and rigidly insisted upon: Colored pupils must not only be admitted into the institution on application, but an earnest and faithful effort must be made to induce such pupils to apply for admission. Such pupils, when admitted, must be domiciled in the same building, must eat at the same table, must be taught in the same class rooms and by the same teachers, and must receive the same attention, care and consideration as white pupils."

##### AMERICAN ASYLUM.

THERE have been three deaths at this Institution since the opening of the term. The first: Frank Tibbetts, Brewer Village, Maine; thirteen years old; one year under instruction; on Sept. 25, at midnight; from scarlet fever. The second: Edward Peters, Natick, Mass., twelve years old; one year under instruction; on Oct. 10, in the early morning; from a ruptured blood vessel, in the head. It seems that the boys have sometimes rolled down the banks of the reservoir to find balls lost in the grass. This sport has been forbidden, but they sometimes persist in doing it, and it was while engaged in this sport it is supposed that the boy burst a blood vessel in his head. During the afternoon the boy recited and engaged in the various games, and at seven o'clock retired as usual, apparently all right, with the exception of a slight headache of which he complained. The next morning the boy was found lying dead in his bed. He was a very bright and intelligent boy. The third: Charles E. Risley, Hartford, Conn.; nine years old; two years under instruction; on Oct. 10, in the early evening; from inflammation of the kidneys.

There have been a number of mild cases of scarlet fever, but all, with the above exception, have yielded to treatment.

There are forty-five new pupils, an unusually large number, and a hearing lady, Miss Larned, has been appointed to teach.

Mr. Job Williams, who has been an instructor here seven years, recently went to the South Carolina Institution, and he may become its principal. It is hoped the climate there will prove more agreeable than that of Hartford, which has somewhat undermined his health.

Hartford, Oct. 4.

W. L. B.

## MICHIGAN.

If you ever looked in more than one bee-hive, you would find very little difference between the workings within. The same with the daily routine of the several deaf-mute schools, and it can hardly pay to itemize, especially in Flint, which, by the way, is a quiet place in comparison with the Eastern institutions, where your correspondents can write of many things which are almost unknown here. But for the knowledge that there are some of your readers who feel a deep interest in the Michigan Institution, this communication would never see the light. This term opened with every prospect of success under divine blessing. The new pupils are, as a class, uncommonly bright, and very fortunate are those young ladies who take charge of them. As the teachers are in a public institution they may not object to an introduction to the reading world. They are Miss Ada Poole, sister of Mrs. Emma Petria DeMott, and Miss Standart, a niece of Mrs. Bangs. Having begun the list, I will go on to the end, Miss Mary Alderman, Messrs W. L. M. Breg, T. L. Brown, Willis Hubbard, A. W. Mann, W. A. Cochrane and J. J. Buchanan. The present matron is Miss M. J. Adams, and we are rejoiced to have Mrs. Z. E. DeMott back to give the benefit of her skill as a nurse—almost a doctress, and wanting only a sheep-skin to make her one.

Last winter being very severe here as it was elsewhere, we suffered a great deal from insufficient heating apparatus. This Fall two new boilers are being put in and the others repaired.

The basket-making is in full operation, and the blind seem to be making fair progress. The foreman and assistants in the cabinet and shoe-shops are all hearing and speaking men. Why not give some deaf-mute men employment there? Perhaps no competent ones have offered themselves. If this communication were for *The Annals* the subject might be enlarged upon. By the way why does not *The Annals* try to point out the merits of our American method of deaf-mute instruction instead of its defects? It is our place to look at the bright side of the thing, and not get discontented and discouraged at the exposure and exaggeration of such defects as are unavoidable, and such ones as would, if let alone, be but trifles.

Our hour for school service is at 10.15 A. M. instead of before school as heretofore. The reason of this change is to give visitors who generally come between ten and four a chance to witness the children together in the chapel. There are seventy-seven boys and seventy-one girls in the Deaf and Dumb Department.

Only last Sunday (Oct. 12) the chapel was the scene of a sad, but beautiful ceremony, that of the funeral of an infant, Herbert Wilton, aged two months and ten days, the only child of Austin W. and Mary E. Mann. At this writing Mr. Mann is prostrated with sickness brought on by anxiety and watching during the illness of the baby.

Mr. Hubbard is having his house enlarged, but I must not follow his example in this communication which is already too long for the patience of your most patient readers.

QUITSEY.

Oct. 15, 1873.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

THE inmates of the Indiana Institution were on the 1st ult. treated to a visit to the State Exposition at Indianapolis. They enjoyed themselves immensely.

THE inmates of the Kentucky Institution raised \$23.50 for the benefit of the Memphis sufferers from yellow fever. This was the first sum raised for that purpose in Danville.

PROFESSOR HYATT, who gave lectures on chemistry and Natural Philosophy to the inmates of the New York Institution last winter, is now giving a series of lectures to the High Class.

## THE FORTNIGHT.

The Boston Base Ball Club has again won the championship.

Sir Edwin Landseer, England's famous painter of animals is dead.

A bale of cotton sold for the benefit of the Memphis sufferers recently brought \$1,500.

The Italian government has expelled the Jesuits from Rome and they have moved to Malta.

The Cunard Steamship Company intend to establish a daily line of steamers between Liverpool and New York.

Imprisonment for debt still continues in England, and thousands of debtors are annually committed to jail.

The amount of gold dug in California since 1848 is \$1,380,700,000, of which \$93,000,000 were mined in 1853.

The Massachusetts treasury has had \$30.293 added to it during the last three months, from fines for selling liquor.

Ex-President Johnson has been visiting Washington, and saying his say on the financial situation and the execution of Mrs. Surratt.

Wonderful are the way of nature in Illinois. A pair of boots costs two pounds of potatoes, and to raise the potatoes wears out two pairs of boots.

Six canal-boats, broken loose from the tow of two steamers by the high wind, were sunk on the Hudson River near Peekskill, on the 20th of October. Loss \$250,000.

Japan does nothing by halves. At a recent execution of three criminals there the victims were beheaded, their skulls battered in, their brains scooped out, and their hearts cut out. None of them survived this treatment.

The deaths from cholera in Hungary up to September 1 this year were 104,000. The disease is declining in Vienna, but increasing at St. Petersburg. In France at Havre 92 deaths in a week are reported. It is in Hull England.

Polygamy is fading out in Turkey by the gradual imitation of European customs, and a conviction that a single wife is less expensive and makes a happier home. Many of the higher classes of officials now keep but one wife.

A heavy fall of rain occurred in many parts of the country on the 19th and 20th, and much damage was done in the Valley of the Lehigh. A heavy gale prevailed on the Lakes at the same time and many vessels were wrecked.

The yellow fever has abated in Memphis and Shreveport, but the citizens, who have left for safety, have been notified not to return yet. The sufferings of the people of these towns have been terrible, and money is being subscribed everywhere for their relief.

The crisis in France has passed, and the republic seems to be established on former ground. The elections which took place recently have increased the number of republicans in the Assembly by such decided majority that no doubt can be entertained of the popular sentiment on the subject.

The entire hay crop has been housed, and the estimated quantity of the entire country is put at 11,800,000 pounds, of which New York furnishes more than half—6,500,000 pounds. The quantity is not so good as last year. The demand will require the importation of some 35,000 bales, or about 8,000,000 pounds.

It is related that while a balloon was passing over a California arm-house a bag of instrument was thrown out to lighten it, and a little girl seeing this, thought one of the men had fallen out. She went to search for him, and, while clambering over the rock, found the skeleton of a young lawyer who had before committed suicide some time.

Who can read without emotion the story of two little girls in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The eldest was seven years of age, the youngest only five. A drunken father left them alone in their room for six days with only a small loaf of bread for food. When the children were found the elder sister was nearly dead, having refused to eat of the bread so that her sister might not suffer. We hear a great deal of heroines. Does history furnish an example equal to this?

The *Vidette* says many of the cherry trees in and around Tusculumbia, Mo., are now in full bloom for the second time during the present year. Many of these trees bore ripe fruit the past summer.

A picture of Memphis is given in an extract from a private letter written to a gentleman in Cincinnati, as follows: "About twelve hundred have died: four hundred have been made orphans, and many more will be before this pestilence is over. God pity them! In the infected districts I have found them sitting sad and desolate upon the streets, and, on inquiry, learned that both parents had gone to the grave, and they had wandered from the place of death."

The United States Secret Service Corps have lately arrested seventy or eighty counterfeiters in North Carolina and Tennessee. Squads of the officers rode, armed, and equipped over seven hundred square miles of territory and made the arrests simultaneously, the guilt of the arrested parties having been secretly ascertained by detectives. These counterfeiters include men in every station of life—lawyers, doctors, justices of the peace, postmasters, U. S. deputy marshals and numerous merchants. The bills counterfeited are the fifty cent note, ten dollar National bank note, and fifty dollar, U. S. legal tenders of the series of 1869. It is said the entire amount of counterfeit money is manufactured in Ohio.